

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3415

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, UG, KE

SUBJECT: NYERERE BLAMES KENYA FOR EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY WOES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SPEAKING IN ZANZIBAR ON DEC. 5, PRESIDENT NYERERE ACCUSED KENYA OF REJECTING TANZANIAN SUGGESTIONS FOR REFORMING THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY. ACCORDING TO INCOMPLETE LOCAL MEDIA REPORTS, NYERERE SAID TANZANIA HAD PROPOSED THAT THE COMMON MARKET STRUCTURE SHOULD BE CHANGED TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE MEMBER STATES, AND THAT THE THREE PARTNERS SHOULD BE EQUALLY REPRESENTED IN THE RUNNING OF THE COMMUNITY CORPORATIONS. BOTH SUGGESTIONS HAD BEEN REJECTED BY KENYA, HE SAID, "FIRST BECAUSE THE COMMUNITY CORPORATIONS ARE A PUZZLE TO CERTAIN PEOPLE WITH CAPITALISTIC AMBITIONS IN KENYA, AND SECONDLY, BECAUSE KENYA IS NOT INTERESTED IN PUBLIC CORPORATIONS".

2. ON DECEMBER 3, MEDIA REPORTED THAT NYERERE OBLIQUELY REBUKED KENYA FOR FIRING TANZANIAN AND UGANDAN EMPLOYEES OF COMMUNITY CORPORATIONS WORKING IN KENYA. KENYA, HE ADDED, COULD NOT FIRE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM'S INTERNATIONAL STAFF IN NAIROBI JUST BECAUSE OF SOME DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN KENYA AND THEIR HOME COUNTRIES, BUT -- HE IMPLIED -- KENYA APPARENTLY FELT FREE TO DO SO

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WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, DESPITE ITS TREATY OBLIGATIONS.

TANZANIA, HE PLEDGED, WOULD NOT CLOSE DOWN OR FIRE NON-TANZANIAN STAFF FROM COMMUNITY CORPORATIONS LOCATED IN TANZANIA.

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3. COMMENT: THAT NYERERE SHOULD BLAME KENYA OR UGANDA FOR THE COMMUNITY'S DIFFICULTIES IS NOT NEW. HOWEVER IT IS ATYPICAL FOR HIM TO BE SO EXPLICIT, PUBLICLY IDENTIFYING KENYA BY NAME.
LEVIN

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